

BZA Case 19954

Chairman Hill,

I am submitting these comments in response to the Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing on March 27, 2019, in the matter of Case 19954. These comments are procedural and this letter is neither in support or opposition to the requested relief.

During public testimony, in which you heard from three abutting neighbors who testified that they **had not received any notice of the case from the applicant**, you asked the neighbors if they had attended their ANC meeting. Please note that the ANC 5E report (exhibits 12 and 13) that supports the application for relief lists the meeting date of January 15, 2019.

You may also note that the BZA's **PHN to Property Owners** was dated February 11, 2019, (Exhibit 26) and therefore most likely received four weeks after the ANC vote. It appears the **posting of zoning signs** took place on March 21 (Exhibit 33), less than a week before the hearing, and over two months after the ANC vote.

While I am a firm believer that neighbors should be active in their community, attending ANC meetings, and particularly the long meetings that ANC5e is known for, very seldom allows for significant public input. ANC5E does not have any committees (as many ANCs do) which allows for more due diligence on the part of the ANC.

The BZA letter to neighbors, while it suggests contacting the ANC, does not suggest attending ANC meetings in the section titled **HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CASE**, and in this instance, was received after the ANC had heard the matter. As the Board gives "great weight" to the vote of ANCs, perhaps the Board should also consider the timeline of the notices of the case.

I was heartened to note that the Board has continued this hearing to allow more time for the applicant to meet with the directly affected neighbors.

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to be preachy.

Betsy McDaniel
ANC 5E resident

